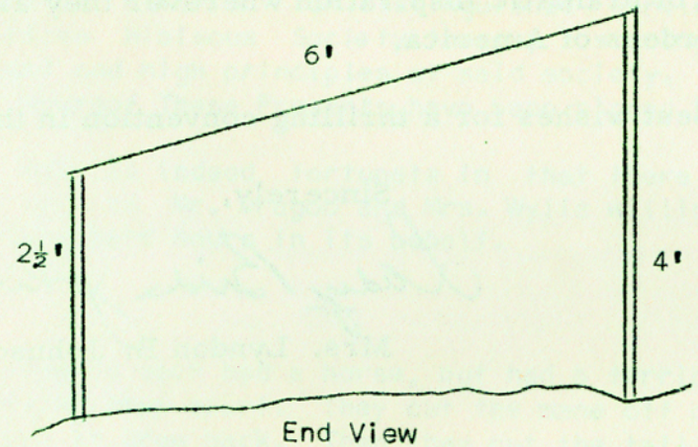
COLD WEATHER IS A COMIN'

Mr. Hunter S. Moles of Baton Rouge, Louisiana writes that he protects his Hibiscus plants in bins that hold 400 to 500 plants. He rarely has losses, and has been kind enough to pass along his method. You might be interested in trying it.

"Some time back, the question was asked as to how Hibiscus can be handled during the winter in colder climates. Here at Baton Rouge, Louisiana we get temperatures as low as 20 degrees almost every winter and we have had temperatures drop to 12 or 15 degrees. I store my plants either in 30# strawberry cans, or if the plants are large and cannot be stored in cans, we get the grape lug boxes from the grocery stores. They are about 12" x 16" and 5" or 6" deep. We cut the balls to fit these boxes. Put sawdust or leaf mold on top to fill the cracks.

We store the cans and boxes under cold frame sash in bins. The bin should have a tight wooden back on the north side over which is tacked large sheets of cardboard such as protects mattresses when they are being shipped. Over this cardboard is nailed tar paper. The cold north winds will not penetrate this protection.



End View

The cold frame sash is tilted from the top frame of this fence which is about 4' high to a lower strip about 2½' high. The ends and south side of the bin

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are covered with heavy plastic sheeting nailed on absolutely tight. Cardboard can be tacked over the plastic during real cold weather.

If the temperature remains at above 50 degrees at night I hook the cold frames up and leave them up. From 50 to 30 degrees we let the sash down at night. Below 30 degrees we throw leaves on top of the sash in the evening. If the temperature is forecast to drop to 24 degrees or lower we tack either building paper or tar paper on the ends and front. We use no heat and have had no losses. People who live as far north as Northern Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia or Tennessee might put an electric light bulb inside the bins and turn it on during real cold nights or if the

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AMATEUR - COLLECTOR - COMMERCIAL

TROPHY FOR BEST BLOOM IN SHOW

All entries welcome. A.H.S. Rules prevail.

ENTRIES CLOSE 10:30

He: "Why is this grocery bill so high?"

She: "Go upstairs and stand sideways in front of a mirror."